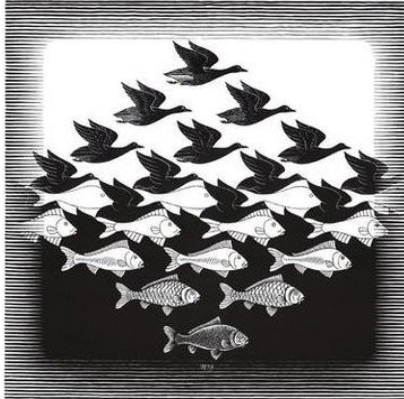


Floodplain Management: Property Buyout Policy Summary



Buyout Policies

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) summary

FEMA has regulatory oversight of the HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) which is the federal program that provides cost sharing to state and local buyout programs. HMGP funding is used for planning grants to develop or update flood mitigation plans, and for project grants to implement mitigation measures such as elevating or dry floodproofing structures, and also for acquisition of property for relocation or demolition of flood prone structures.

FEMA's October 1998 handbook titled 'Property Acquisition Handbook for Local Communities' (ref. pg I-22) has the following example criteria for potential inclusion into a local community priority list. Properties that have been substantially damaged, suffered repetitive losses, or are located in a floodway or floodplain. Certain types of properties such as residential, tenant-occupied, commercial, or vacant lots. Properties insured or not insured under the NFIP. Properties that are contiguous to those properties that meet the locally set criteria.

City of Tulsa, OK summary

Tulsa, OK (population of approximately 800,000) has over 2,600 buildings in the FEMA floodplain. Along with 31 basin master drainage plans and \$500 Million in identified drainage projects, Tulsa has a program for buying floodplain properties. Since 1984 the City of Tulsa has acquired and cleared over 1,000 flood-prone properties. Their current buyout candidate list of over 450 structures includes 13 properties of which the city considers to be high priority for floodplain buyout acquisition in a July 2001 application to FEMA. The criteria for buyouts is based upon past and potential flooding frequency and damage. Buyouts are voluntary.

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District summary

The Papio NRD has been involved with buyouts in the Weircrest neighborhood of Omaha, riverbank communities, and in small towns within the District's boundaries. The program is voluntary to keep in compliance with FEMA criteria for cost sharing. Eligibility of the program is based on the property being in a floodway and within the District. Properties in order of priority are residences, commercial buildings, farmsteads, and industrial buildings. Other concerns for making priority decisions are past flooding history, is it a riverside property, and those properties under foreclosure.

